

Name of organization: Romanian Club 4-I Foundation

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Organizational Information: It is a non-profit foundation working based upon the 21/1924 law.

Founded: May 1997

Age of members: 5-18 years old

Number of volunteers: 25

Number of staff: 8

Parent Organization: FHI-Community Development (Kevin R. Hagen)

Department of Agriculture: Approval of the Education Minister.

Supporting Organization: County Department for Youth and Sport; Pitesti, Romania,

Purpose: the goal is humanitarian, educational and has as object:

- founding clubs or any other organizational structures that can help youth to be more efficient in its work;
- collaborating with educational institutions and non-governmental organizations;
- organizing preparing programs at a national and local level;
- collaborating at an international level with similar organizations;
- translating and printing informational material needed for a better development of club activities.

Symbol:



A clover with four leaves. Each leaf has an “I” on it. Every “I” means: Intelligence, Skill, Heart and Trust. The symbol is white with green.

Slogan: “To make the best better”. The motto is “Learning by practicing”.

Pledge: I pledge my heart to clearer thinking,
My heart to greater loyalty,
My hands to larger service,
And my health to better living,
For my club, my community,
My country, and my world.

Educational Program focus: Romanian Club 4-I Foundation has at this moment four centers and each center suborders many other clubs. The activities that develop in those clubs are chosen by the members and are programmed in the activities calendar from “Parliamentary Procedures” (clubs manual). The activities are developed in the headquarters, in schools and at the member’s house. The projects developed by the members are both individual (such as computers) and group projects (such as dance, foreign languages). The present domains are: dance, computers, foreign languages, drawing, cooking, bikes, tourism and music. Also, twice a year, there are “4-I events” at a foundation level such as national project contests when the members from the four centers can conquer between them.

The material used in the clubs comes, part of it from the 4-H material from United States of America that was sent through Minnesota University and which now are at the foundation, and the other part comes from direct information of the members.

Resources to share: The foundation has a lot of booklets and presentation folders, that we can send to you for a better information of the people interested in it. We also, at your request, can make for you a mini-album with images containing different previous activities developed by us along the five years of existence.

THE PRESENTATION OF THE ORGANIZATION

NAME:	FUNDATIA CLUB 4-I ROMANIA
JURIDICAL STATUTE:	Non-governmental organization
DATE OF FOUNDATION:	1997
PERSONNEL:	7 employees, 25 volunteers, 400 members
STRUCTURE:	4 zonal centers with 27 clubs

SHORT PRESENTATION

Although it was founded in 1997, the activity began in 1993 supported by two American volunteers, as a project of W.C.I. (World Care International) – non-governmental organization that has as goal the development of the community – and with the support of V.O.C.A. volunteers (Volunteers Overseas Cooperative Assistance).

In the beginning there was only a club with boys and girls and had as project growing flowers.

After only six months there were founded, with volunteers help, a number of eight more clubs in other areas of the country: Selimbar-Sibiu and Rasnov-Brasov.

All the clubs have the same symbol: a trefoil with four leaves with the inscription “I” on each petal, each letter “I” having a signification: Intelligence, Heart, Trust and Skill.

In The United States of America were founded, about 90 years ago, this kind of clubs, their name being “4-H Clubs”, name adopted by the Romanians under the name of 4-I. The signification of the four “I” letters are a translation from English of the four “H” letters, in the trefoil. All the organizations of this type in the world have as motto the expression: “ Learning by practicing”.

The club meetings take part in different places, at member’s house, at school, in parks, anywhere needed for the development of a club project, either individual or group project.

Each meeting is assisted by a grown-up volunteer and leaded by a council board, that was elected by secret vote by the members of the club, and uses in the development of the meetings: “ Parliamentary Procedures”.

Advancing in time, we reach the year of 1994 when the number of the grown-ups and young volunteers-leaders of club- grows to 4, and the number of the clubs reaches the number 12.

Takes place the first 4-I event: the participation at the “Farmers Fair” in Curtea de Arges. The clubs have nominated the winners at

contests as: The best project, The most working member, The best pizza, etc.

In 1995-1996, as the members grown up, in the initial clubs was made the passing to the organization of some preparing courses for the leaders volunteers which showed quickly their results. This thing will increase the number of the volunteers from 4 to 8 and to 14 clubs in which a number of 120 members developed their activity at the end of 1996 year.

In 1996-1998 the progress continued to show considering the number of members, this being between 180 and 200 members, the number of clubs between 18 and 20 and the number of volunteers between 10 and 12. As activities developed in the foundation we can name:

- projects in the following domains: computers, bikes, growing flowers, education, etc.
- 4-I events: Child's International Day in Curtea de Arges;
- "The Day of 4-I Clubs" at the Farmers Fair.
- seminars, international conferences and changing experience with countries as: Poland, Hungary, Denmark, The United States of America.
- Projects developed in association with Children's Club in Curtea de Arges: Karting contest, Touristic orientation and the Protection of the Nature.

PRESENT AND FUTURE

The work for the development of the organization continues and one can say it isn't in vain because at the end of 1998 year we succeeded in founding two more centers, so at this point the foundation has four centers which are: Curtea de Arges, Cristian- Brasov, Rasnov-Brasov, Fierbinti-Ialomita. The number of clubs is 27, clubs in which develops activity a number of about 400 members, 25 volunteers, 5 employees. The projects developed by the club members are from the following areas: computers, growing flowers, art, tourism, foreign languages, accounting, modern and society dance, the organization of contests and expositions.

Of the major projects developed during the 4 years we can name the following:

1997- Complete legalization of 4-I as an indigenous NGO (non-government

organization in Romania);

- Train a full time National Coordinator that would groom existing clubs and replicate them around Romania;

- Develop an office for the National Coordinator;
- Buy a vehicle for logistical needs of the National Coordinator;
- Continue developing and printing educational materials for the 4-I members and leaders;
- Expand the number of clubs in 5 target cities with 10 clubs in 1997.

- 1998**
- The participation at the Farmers Fair;
 - The organization of a training course for the 4-I volunteers;
 - Editing the first 4-I newspaper;
 - Hiring two part-time persons;
 - The organization of two more courses for volunteers;
 - The organization as a permanent annual activity of the “Child’s International Day”;
 - Starting one more area center in Brasov-Sibiu;
 - Finding new leaders and volunteers for the development of new clubs;
 - The opening of a third work center;
 - The organization of the changes of ideas between the similar youth organizations which participated at the 4-I Conference from Poland and participation at the “7th World Conference of the International

4-H Youth Exchange” Washington D.C;

- The attendance at the seminar “ The period of formation for the leaders of the youth organization” organized by the Council of Europe together with the Romanian Ministry of Youth and Sports, The European Forum of youth and the Youth Council In Romania.
- Putting together a new course four volunteers in Rasnov-Brasov;
- The Official Inauguration of the Center from Rasnov;
- Connecting our computers in the Internet Network;
- Making contacts and develop the relationships in the region Fierbinti-Ialomita in order to start a zonal center;

- 1998** - Making available resources for the 4-I office from Fierbinti and for

member’s project from area;

- The organization of a new course of orientation and training for Volunteers from Fierbinti Center;
- Setting up new strategies for our Foundation being helped by the Manager of F.H.I. Community Development;
- The organization of the Easter show performed in Rasnov center;
- Making contacts and further develop the relations with The European Council and especially with E.C.Y.F.4.H.C. that ended up by being invited to attend “European Rally ‘99”;

- Developing some projects in collaboration with the territorial organization of the Ministry of Youth and Sports, through their County representatives;
- International Child's Day – organized in Curtea de Arges;
- The organization of an advance training course for the 4-I volunteers and experience exchange for the volunteers of the three centers;
- "The Solar Eclipse '99" – the most important event of the decade for our city;
- Participation in Norway Conference: " Leaders and volunteers training";
- Christmas show performed in Rasnov center;
- Setting up of a micro-orchard in Fierbinti Center;
- Participation at Christmas Show in Curtea de Arges;
- Participation at Householder's Day in Rasnov Center;
- Publishing new "4-I Club Guide" for all the centers;
- Christmas Show - Rasnov Center;
- Easter Show - Fierbinti Center;
- International Child's Day - Curtea de Arges Center;
- 4-I summer camp;
- Organization of joint projects with others governmental and non-governmental organizations;
- Organization of periodical courses.

2000

- International Child's Day;
- Christmas Show;
- Organization of joint projects with others governmental and non-governmental organizations like: D.J.T.S., M.T.S., Children's Club:
 - 1.The publication of an informative bulletin 4-I;
 - 2.The printing of the club materials " Parliamentary Procedures" ;
 3. "Volunteers Course 2 000";
- Chess contest;
- A trip to the mountains;
- 4-I fair in Fierbinti Center.

For the year 2001 the foundation is proposing to improve the number of the leaders by organizing new courses for them and preparing members in order to become good leaders, as well as increasing the raze of activity at a national level by creating new centers and finding new projects and program partners.

We also want to join the international organizations as: ECY4HC (European Committee for Young Farmers and 4-H Clubs) and collaborators with 4-H structures in the world (example 4-H Clubs in

U.S.A.), in order to have access to the information and to start changing the experience between the volunteers and the club members.

We know that every new program needs a long time effort in order to be appreciated and we hope that this program will succeed in Romania as it succeeded in other 80 countries where it already exists.

For more information please contact us at the following address;

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